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Graduate School of International and Defense Studies (IDS) International Defense Acquisition Resource Management (IDARM) I

2015-10

**IDARM International Defense Acquisition
Resource Management Program Quarterly
Newsletter / Winter, Oct-Dec 2015**

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/53324>

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IDARM

INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER
OCT-DEC
2015



Established in 1997, the IDARM program is intended to strengthen democratic relationships and international security cooperation through acquisition education, research, and professional service. Our objective is to provide the framework within which countries can develop and sustain efficient and effective defense acquisition systems.

IN-RESIDENCE COURSES

PRINCIPLES OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT (MASL P159200) 19-30 OCTOBER 2015
PRINCIPLES OF DEFENSE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING (MASL P159202) 2-13 NOVEMBER 2015
INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION NEGOTIATIONS (MASL P179069) 16-25 NOVEMBER 2015

IDARM conducted its annual fall suite of in-resident program offerings in Monterey, California: Principles of Defense Acquisition Management, Principles of Defense Procurement & Contracting, and International Defense Acquisition Negotiations. The complete six week program covered the most fundamental aspects of defense acquisition and contract management, although courses are scheduled in two-week blocks to afford participants the option of attending a minimum of two-weeks. Participants obtained an advanced understanding of the various phases of the defense acquisition life cycle, defense procurement and contracting processes, and negotiation strategies for managing defense contracts. Participants in attendance were from Albania, Argentina, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Czech Republic, Hungary, India, Jordan, Latvia, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, South Korea, Trinidad-Tobago, Ukraine, and Uganda. The spring program offerings are limited to the first two courses starting 7 March, 2016 and all three courses will be offered again starting 17 October, 2016. Early reservation of quotas through the Naval Education and Training Security Assistance Field Activity (NETSAFA) is encouraged. Courses are taught in English and require an ECL score of 80.

RECENT GLOBAL EXPERIENCES
LEBANON • DRC • QATAR • BULGARIA

CONTRACT & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Beirut, Lebanon

IDARM conducted two courses in Beirut, Lebanon in the areas of Contract and Project Management for the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF). During 19-23 October, 2015, LAF officers participated in the “Advanced Contract Management II” course, as a follow on to the first course conducted in June 2015. The purpose was to continue the in-depth discussion of post award contract management methodologies aimed at improving the quality and enforceability of LAF contracts. “Managing Complex Defense Acquisition Projects,” was conducted during 14-18 December, 2015 and provided LAF officers an in-depth examination of the challenges associated with managing complex defense acquisition projects with an emphasis on applying effective project management techniques. IDARM will return to Beirut later this year to conduct a “Contract Monitoring and Enforcement,” course which will examine key considerations and challenges in contract monitoring and enforcement with an emphasis on designing and implementing methodologies that will effectively measure contract performance.



DEFENSE ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

IDARM conducted the final two courses of a three-year series of Defense Acquisition Management courses for the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC). The one week “Ethics and Integrity in Defense Acquisition Decision Making,” was conducted during 9-13 November, 2015 and examined ethics and integrity in defense acquisition decision-making and the fundamental characteristics of a fair and transparent public procurement system. Emphasis was placed on creating and sustaining an organizational culture that is grounded in appropriate individual behavior.



The one week “Defense Acquisition Management Capstone” course was conducted during 7-11 December, 2015 and examined critical issues in defense acquisition management and the fundamentals of effective planning and decision making. Emphasis was placed on ensuring effective policy is enforceable and supported by sound acquisition procedures. Participants considered the challenges of procurement and contracting in an environment characterized by mid-

to high-intensity conflict.

During both courses participants worked on group exercises aimed at synthesizing key concepts and considerations.

A total of nine workshops were executed in Kinshasa as part of an ongoing U.S. effort to engage the DRC, and to sustain U.S. and Western influence. IDARM will continue to engage with DRC and FARDC to custom tailor programs as required.



BULGARIA

Principles of Defense Acquisition Management

During 7-11 December, 2015 IDARM conducted the “Principles of Defense Acquisition Management,” course in Sofia, Bulgaria. This foundational course provided 25 civilian and military participants with an in-depth examination of the challenges associated with managing complex defense acquisition projects. The attributes of effective resource management and decision making throughout the planning, implementation and operations and support phases were discussed. One of the key take-aways, as shared by the majority of participants, was working in small groups on a series of exercises focused on realistic challenges associated with different acquisition stages. Participants readily understood that consulting widely gave them better and more informed answers than if operating in smaller groups or in isolation. Project management and life cycle cost management were areas of focus throughout the course and future courses can provide a more in-depth examination of these topics.



QATAR

IDARM conducted a site visit in Doha, Qatar during 15-17 November, 2015 to discuss defense acquisition management requirements and potential in-resident program course scheduling. Site visits are critical opportunities that afford both parties the opportunity to exchange information and meet with key personnel to better understand immediate priorities, current capabilities, and existing challenges and opportunities.